

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 12-16 are pending in this application. Claims 12-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,181,938 to Salmela et al. (herein "Salmela") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,073,035 to Witter. Claims 15 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Salmela and Witter in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,421,539 to Jeong.

Addressing first the rejection of claims 12-14 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Salmela in view of Witter, that rejection is traversed by the present response.

Initially, applicants note independent Claim 12 is amended by the present response to clarify features recited therein. Specifically, independent claim 12 now clarifies that the controller disables the receiver "by controlling a switch provided between a power supply and the receiver". That subject matter is believed to be fully supported by the specification, see for example switches 22, 24, 26, and 30 in Figs. 1A and 1B in the present specification as non-limiting examples.

Applicants' disclosure describes a non-limiting example of the claimed features with reference to Figures 1 and 2. In the example, a location registration request signal is transmitted by a mobile station to a base station (step S118). An acknowledge signal is transmitted by the base station when the location registration request signal is received by the base station. Accordingly, the mobile station waits for the acknowledge signal from the base station (step S120). If the acknowledge signal is not received within a predetermined period of time, the power supply to the receiving section of the mobile station is suspended (steps S120 and S122) for a prescribed duration. Thereafter, the power supply is restored to the

receiving section and another location registration request signal is transmitted (step S125).<sup>1</sup>

Thus, in order to conserve power, the mobile station suspends power to the receiving section and disables transmission of the location registration request signal. As stated by Applicants' disclosure:

As described above, the mobile station according to the present invention turns off the power supply to the receiving section or prohibits the action of the receiving section for a predetermined period of time when the acknowledge signal is not received within a predetermined period after the location registration request signal is transmitted. Thus, it is enabled to save the power by eliminating the situation of the prior art in which the mobile station continues to transmit the location registration request signals [while] waiting for the acknowledge signal when the acknowledge signal is not received.<sup>2</sup>

In addressing the claimed features the outstanding Office Action states:

Regarding amended claim 12, the applicants submitted that the newly added limitation "a controller configured to disable transmission of the location registration signal to the base station" distinguishes over the applied references (Salmela and Witter). The examiner responds that the Witter reference teaches that "after an attempt to access a base station has failed, a sleep timer is started in the CPU, and the MSM is powered down to a reduced power mode, followed by the RX section. After the RX section has powered down, the CPU powers down to complete the transition to the reduced power mode. After the sleep timer expires, the CPU, RX Section and MSM are restored to full power, and the phone again searches the available carriers in an attempt to access a base station." When the CPU is powered down, no transmission can take place. Therefore, the above passage reads on the limitation "a controller configured to disable transmission of the location registration signal to the base station".

In response to the above-noted basis for maintaining the rejection, applicants note that the system structure and objective of the device in Witter differ significantly from that in the claimed invention.

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<sup>1</sup> See Applicants' specification, page 10, line 14 – page 11, line 23.

<sup>2</sup> See Applicants' specification, page 15, line 23 – page 16, line 1.

First, the claims are amended to clarify that the receiver is disabled “by controlling a switch provided between a power supply and the receiver”. Witter clearly does not teach or suggest such a feature. Witter discloses being able to completely power down a CPU, which would prevent any operation of a receiver, but thereby in Witter many other elements within the device would also be powered down, rather than being able to merely selectively power down a receiver to reduce power consumption such as in the present invention.

In the claims the receiver is selectively disabled by controlling a switch provided between a power supply and the receiver. Thus, in the claimed invention only the receiver needs to be powered down. Witter does not have such a structure because in Witter a CPU is completely powered down. Further, Witter could not realize an operation as in the claimed invention because in Witter the powering down of the CPU will not allow any selective disabling of a receiver. As a result Witter would not and could not even have been modified to meet the claimed limitations of providing a switch provided between a power supply and a receiver to selectively disable the receiver.

Thereby, in Witter no transmission or reception can take place after the CPU is powered down. In contrast to Witter, in the claimed operation the receiver can be selectively disabled intentionally to save power.

In such ways, independent claim 12, and the claims dependent therefrom, are believed to clearly distinguish over Salmela and Witter.

Addressing now the rejection of claims 15 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Salmela in view of Witter and in further view of Jeong, that rejection is further traversed by the present response.

First, applicants note the deficiencies of the combination of teachings of Salmela in view of Witter discussed above are not cured by the teachings in Jeong.

Moreover, applicants submit Jeong does not even address the features recited in further dependent claims 15 and 16, and thus Jeong does not cure the recognized deficiencies of Salmela in view of Witter with respect to claims 15 and 16.

The outstanding Office Action relies upon Jeong to disclose “means for acquiring a second base station” as recited in claim 15. Applicants respectfully submit, however, that Jeong does not disclose that claimed feature.

With features as recited in claim 15 an operation for acquiring a second base station starts when a receiver does not receive an acknowledge signal within a predetermined time period. In contrast to that claimed feature, in Jeong a cellular system starts an operation for acquiring a second base station based on an intensity of an electric field received by the cellular system. As a result, motivation for starting an operation of acquiring a second base station differs between the claimed invention and the teachings in Jeong.

Jeong describes acquiring a base station to which a connection is to be established based on intensity of an electric field received by the cellular system. In other words, in Jeong the intensity of the electric field of a first base station received by the cellular system and the intensity of the electric field of a second base station received by the cellular system are compared, and a connection is established with the base station having the electric field with the greater intensity. Therefore, with the system in Jeong connection may be reestablished with the base station a cellular system is currently connected to.

However, in claim 15 connection is established with a different second base station when a receiver does not receive an acknowledgement signal within a predetermined time period from a first base station. Jeong does not teach or suggest any similar feature. Thereby, Jeong does not cure the recognized deficiencies of Salmela in view of Witter with respect to features recited in claims 15 and 16.

Thereby, applicants respectfully submit claims 15 and 16 even further distinguish over the combination of teachings of Salmela in view of Witter and further in view of Jeong.

In view of these foregoing comments, applicants respectfully submit the claims as currently written distinguish over the applied art.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



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Eckhard H. Kuesters  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No. 28,870

Customer Number  
**22850**  
Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413 -2220  
(OSMMN 06/04)  
EHK/SNS:sjh

Surinder Sachar  
Registration No. 34,423

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